

쉐마를 이용한 교회 교육 활성화를 위한 목회 전략
뉴욕 동부 교회 청장년을 중심으로

A STUDY OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION THROUGH THE SHEMA

FOCUSING ON ADULT MEMBER

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ABSTRACT

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION THROUGH THE SHEMA

FOCUSING ON ADULT MEMBER

by Bong Ki. Chung

This project has been conducted to mature spiritually stagnant The Korean Presbyterian Church of East New York since 20 years before through enforcing bible study known as "Shema program". As the result, recovery of faith in participants could be witnessed. In addition, the church was also observed with gradual sound maturity. Therefore, I have tried to clarify renewed consciousness and maturity into sound church on participants of Shema program of this church by comprehending the faith in kingdom of God through the program. Sound church is a church filled with love of God which not only seeks for theological future Kingdom of God but also must search for present Kingdom of God also must embrace their neighbours and take parts in their hardships and create hopes from darkness.

Therefore, it is impossible to say that church in mega size with material oriented pastorate with buildings and numerical objectives as sound church. And also, church with mind set of hanging onto tradition and custom can not be called as sound church. A sound church is a church with living God who has come to endow redemption on the souls and serve God and neighbors as my own body.

Through the holistic healing retreat, wounds obtained from life has been treated and God's words were filled through reading holy bible everyday within purified spirit. Disciples' life of faith began to change as live and dynamic words started to work with power of God. And as everyday's Quite Time listening to word of God has got familiar, maturity of religious personality started to emerge. Consideration and care towards neighbors started to fruition. Not only that but also changes started to

appear on those little shepherds who preach the words to others and teaching new devotees and complete devotion was confessed through the panorama seminar of holy bible and Bible reading class. Small groups started to re-invigorate.

Eastern disciples has thought that attending for worship was the entire life of faith. They thought life of serving others, participating in evangelism was far from them and job for pastors. They only thought of life of faith to follow the world order and obtain psychological comfort from faith and place for moral lesson. However, meeting Jesus Christ through Shema project has helped to experience God's reign and helped to pursuit the life as a person following his reign. Now all these will be emerged as life of honesty, life of forgiving, life of reconciliation, life of caring for welfare of our neighbors, life of gratitude, life of realizing the responsibility in divine order of creation.

Also this project was a good opportunity for me to newly discover about Shema, which has helped to gain firm belief in "Only in the Bible" cried by many religious reformers. It is possible to find the church that can change a person just with the holy Bible. Limited knowledge and experience in Shema is the inconvenience that I fill during this project. Actually I have leaded approximately 20 times of Bible reading classes and almost 30 years of Quiet Time, and yet "Shema" was something very unknown to me. And I plan to research on the aspects of Shema education by Jews.

How could Jews accomplish to pass down the Word of God for 4200 years? How could they maintain their ethnicity after fade of nation for 2500 years? The answer is in their Shema education. On the other hand why couldn't the early church survive for 2000 years? The initial early church started from descent of the holy spirit in Mark's attic. They propagated the gospels to Judea Samaria and Asia, and passed Toma to the Spain and again to the Northern Europe and to England and later reached to

Korea. However, there aren't many nations nor races that stores the candlesticks of holy spirit and words of God during this 2000 years. There are no churches in Jerusalem. Churches in Turkey with Antioch church, the seven churches indicated in the revelation of John is also dead. Until now Church has failed to pass down the word of God to future generation. When looking into Korean Churches globally, 70% of students will leave the church when they enter into College and 90% will leave the church after completing their education. There is minor difference however, the situation is not that different with domestic Churches. Shema education is the counterproposal for this situation that we face now. This is the objective of Shema project.

"Silent life of faith is Gospel without Christ."

"It is impossible to lead honest life of faith without words of God."

"Words must be understood in order to achieve honest life of faith."

Development of modern knowledge information and media has tendency of exceeding the shell and pursues the core essence. There are also voices in faith searching for its core essence. This can be seen through the reality of negligence by others when core essentials are not shown. Present church stands in the midst of a crisis. Many young people are yearning for true life or they are they have lost their directions. Also they have great thirst for truth, love and sabbath.

The world has as we know has become harsh, and changed drastically, which has lead to unstable life. In early days Jesus Christ has given eternal truth, love and sabbath to people. And his Gospel was spread throughout the world, at this period this Gospel of eternal truth, life and love has turned into fossil which has made difficult to experience the spiritual Christ. Long time ago the forefathers of Christianity pursued deep spiritual association with Christ rather than his words and logic.

This is the reason why we must erect a church centered on the

words of our Lord which is the conventional church that we used to belong before the reformation era.

The words of God can only touch people's empty hearts with passion or with strong sensations, and it will draw into those weary and lonely modern people with consolation and tranquility. Since our church have lost the true appearance of faith, people drawn to appearance rather than its true content can not be a paradox. The research on growth of church through Shema program performed in our church does not stop here. It will continue until on that day when more people will gain spiritual consolation, and step to the way of salvation.

I hope that more people to follow on this journey.

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저에게 생명을 주시고 헌신하게 하셔서 목회의 길로 인도해 주신 하나님, 공부할 수 있도록 환경과 여건을 허락해 주시고 오늘까지 이끌어 주신 하나님께 진심으로 감사를 드립니다. ‘쉐마교육을 통한 교회 교육의 활성화 전략’이라는 주제로 연구를 하는 가운데 하나님이 배제된 세속의 가치관이 판치는 세상속에서 성도들이 어떻게 살아야 하는지에 대한 해답을 얻게 되었습니다. 그것은 교회가 쉐마교육을 통해서 청장년들을 무장시켜 성서의 가치관대로 살게 하는 것입니다. 이미 유대인들의 삶을 통해 검증되었습니다. 그리고 제가 추구하고 노력해 온 신앙생활에 대한 확신을 더욱 공고히 하게 되었습니다. 물론 이번 연구를 통해 많은 부분에서 미처 깨닫지 못함으로 놓쳐 버린 것들을 발견하게 되었습니다. 그러나 교훈으로 받아 들이면서 교회에서 쉐마교육을 통하여 청장년들의 변화와 회복을 기대하게 되었습니다. 공부해 가면서 하나님의 마음을 더 잘 알게 되었고 귀한 은혜들을 주시고 훈련을 통하여 하나님의 말씀을 다루는 목회자로서 좀 더 유용한 사람이 되도록 부족한 부분들을 다듬어 주신 것에 감사할 뿐입니다.

그리고 NYTS 학교생활을 잘 할수 있도록 격려해주신 총장님, Dr. Moody Shepherd 와 본 프로젝트 연구를 위해서 친절과 정성으로 방향을 잡아주시고 어려움이 있을 때마다 용기를 주시며 지도해주신 백창건 교수님, 멘토가 되어 한 주일에 한번씩 공부를 시켜주신 조달진 박사님과 여러 교수님들에게 진심으로 감사를 드립니다. 또한 공부하는 동안 늘 격려와 나눔과 섬김의 우정을 보여준 목회의 동역자요 학우였던 스톤 포인트 동기들, 특히 신성호, 이원복, 조용승목사 그리고 맨허튼 급우 지인식, 임희관, 김택경, 이준규목사등 친구들에게 감사드립니다.

마치 자신이 공부하는 것처럼 기뻐하며 적극적으로 격려하며 어려움 가운데서도 묵묵히 기도하며 공부를 끝까지 마치도록 내조해 준 아내 문영희 사모와 이제 자라서 목회의 동역자가 되어주는 직이와 의에게 고맙다는 말을 전합니다. 또한 충성된 사역자가 되기를 기도하면서 물심양면으로 후원을 아끼지 않은 부모님, 형제, 자매들의 사랑에 깊이 감사를 드립니다. NYTS에서의 시간들, 미국에서의 삶은 전적인 하나님의 은총이었습니다.

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